

striking way one of the best methods of preventing decay in railroad ties. The standard measures of all nations make an interesting collection, but, unfortunately, we were not permitted to see the original meter, which is preserved from view in the vaults of the building. In the courtyards are bronze statues of Le Blanc, who made the fortunes of so many and committed suicide by reason of his own poverty, and of Boussingault, the contemporary of Liebig and the father of French agricultural chemistry. A photographic view of the congress was made on the steps of the west facade of the building.

Tenth day, Wednesday, August 5. In the morning the sections held their final sessions for hearing papers and discussions. In the afternoon the closing meeting of the congress was held in the grand amphitheatre of the Sorbonne under the presidency of Mr. Henri Boucher, Minister of Commerce and Industry. Addresses were made by Mr. Lindet and the Minister and a report of the proceedings of the congress presented by the secretary, Mr. Dupont. Turin and Vienna were placed in nomination as the places of meeting of the congress in 1898. Vienna was selected by a large majority. An invitation was extended by Mr. Lindet to hold the congress of 1900 in Paris during the World's Exhibition, and that invitation will doubtless be accepted at Vienna.

After the adjournment of the meeting, the new laboratories of organic chemistry, constructed by Friedel, were inspected by Mr. Doremus and myself. In the confusion of the summer cleaning, we could hardly form any favorable judgment of their points of excellence. The ultra impressionist painting of Paradise Lost, a mural ornamentation back of the professor's lecture table, was the most original and inexplicable feature of the laboratory.

PARIS, August 10, 1896.

NOTE.

The fourteenth annual report of the Committee on Indexing Chemical Literature was presented to the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the Buffalo meeting, August 24. A large amount of work has been done in this field during the year. The committee is an active one and has done a valuable work in encouraging and recording biographical undertakings. Copies of the report may be obtained of the chairman, Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club, Washington, D. C.